

City of Nashua Emergency Management Officials urge residents to “Be Prepared” for Hurricane Sandy

As Hurricane Sandy continues to move through the Atlantic, the City of Nashua continues to monitor and review potential impacts from this storm. At this time, Hurricane Sandy is a category one hurricane, with maximum sustained winds of 75 mph. Even with Sandy not making landfall in New England, this storm is extremely large and has the potential for historic impacts.

What You Can Do

Everyone from Virginia to Maine has been advised by the National Weather Service and FEMA to be prepared as Sandy's future path is uncertain. The City of Nashua, NH is extremely likely to be affected by the projected track. As Sandy continues its approach toward the U.S. here are a few reminders:

- **Stay informed of the latest forecast** – the National Hurricane Center continues to be the official source for Hurricane Sandy forecasts and updates, which can be found at www.hurricanes.gov or on your phone at <http://hurricanes.gov/mobile>. If the storm approaches your community, your local National Weather Service forecast office is the best place to find any severe weather watches/warnings for your area (www.weather.gov) or on your phone (<http://mobile.weather.gov>).
- **Have your emergency kit ready** – make sure [your emergency kit](#) is capable of sustaining your family members ([including pets](#)) for at least 72 hours. Remember to include important documents, prescription medications, and other essentials for children and pets. There is still plenty of time to build a kit if you don't have one.
- **Review and practice your family's emergency plan** – be sure family members know how they will communicate after a disaster, or where safe meeting locations are both in town and out-of-town. For more tips on making your family's emergency plan, visit Ready.gov. During the Earthquake in Maine this month, cellular and land-line phones were congested with people trying to call loved ones. Know of an alternate way to contact your family during an emergency.
- **Test your generator and practice safe generator procedures** - make sure your generator is operational and fully fueled prior to the storm. Review the video by the New Hampshire Fire Marshal on [generator safety](#).
- **Make sure your business and employees are prepared** - emergencies don't just occur at the home. It's important if you own a business, or are a leader in your workplace to make sure your business is prepared. Make sure your facilities have a plan to deal with emergencies during and after the storm passes.
- **Take political signs down and secure outdoor furniture this weekend** – these small signs will become projectiles
- **In case of an emergency—call 911. If you do NOT have an emergency, contact the City Emergency Information Line at 603-589-3456.**

What the City of Nashua Is Doing

The City of Nashua Emergency Management Team has been coordinating with the Boston National Weather Service Office and monitoring the track of the storm and potential impacts. We have also been working with the New Hampshire Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management and the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services and will continue to do so as the storm gets closer. In addition, departments within the city have been reviewing their emergency plans, testing generators and portable pumps, setting up the Emergency Operations Center equipment, and ensuring they are prepared for Hurricane Sandy. As the storm approaches, the City will provide citizens with additional information as necessary. Currently we have no plans or time that we will open up a Shelter. In the event we decide to open a shelter, we will provide this information on the City website. Information will be regularly posted on the city's website at www.NashuaNH.Gov/emergency and on the City social media accounts: on Twitter @nashuaoem and www.facebook.com/nashuaoem.

Earlier this week, Sandy passed over Haiti and Cuba, causing widespread power and water outages for many on the islands. This should serve as an important reminder for everyone along the East Coast to be prepared. The storm has left 21 people dead across the Caribbean. Once again, there is still uncertainty on Sandy's track, but it is important to be ready for Sandy, other Hurricanes this season, or any emergency in general. Now is the time to get prepared.